

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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This is UNEVALUATED Information

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
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Railroad Transportation School in Sofia

1. The Bulgarian State Railroad operates a Railroad Transportation School (Sredno Transportno Uchilishte) in Sofia. Its buildings are located in various sections of Sofia, as follows:
 - a. The Railroad Engineer and "Locomotive Technician" Sections are located at No. 15 Grobarska Street in a 2-story gray building seven or eight by 15 meters in size;
 - b. The Railroad Construction Technician Section is located in an unidentified building in the Nadezhda Quarter;
 - c. Two 2-story buildings, one 10 by 10 meters in size and the other 10 by 25 meters in size, located at No. 2 Fritov Nausen Street; the smaller building houses the administration offices of the school and the Railroad Traffic Control Section and the larger building contains a dormitory, the kitchen and dining room used by all the students, and the office of the school's supply official; and
 - d. A second dormitory is located at No. 5 Grobarska Street; this building is three stories high, measures six by 15 meters, and houses about 120 students.
2. The school consists of four sections, the Railroad Engineer Section, the "Locomotive Technician Section," the Railroad Construction Technician Section, and the Railroad Traffic Control Section. During the period from 1 October 1949 to March 1951, the student body was composed of about 400 youths and the faculty was composed of 15 full-time teachers. Prospective students are chosen by competitive examinations from among youths not older than 18 years of age who are members in good standing of the DSNM (Dimitroviski Suvuz na Narodnata Mladezh; Dimitrov Union of the People's Youth) and who have been graduated from the ninth class.

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25 YEAR RE-EVALUATION

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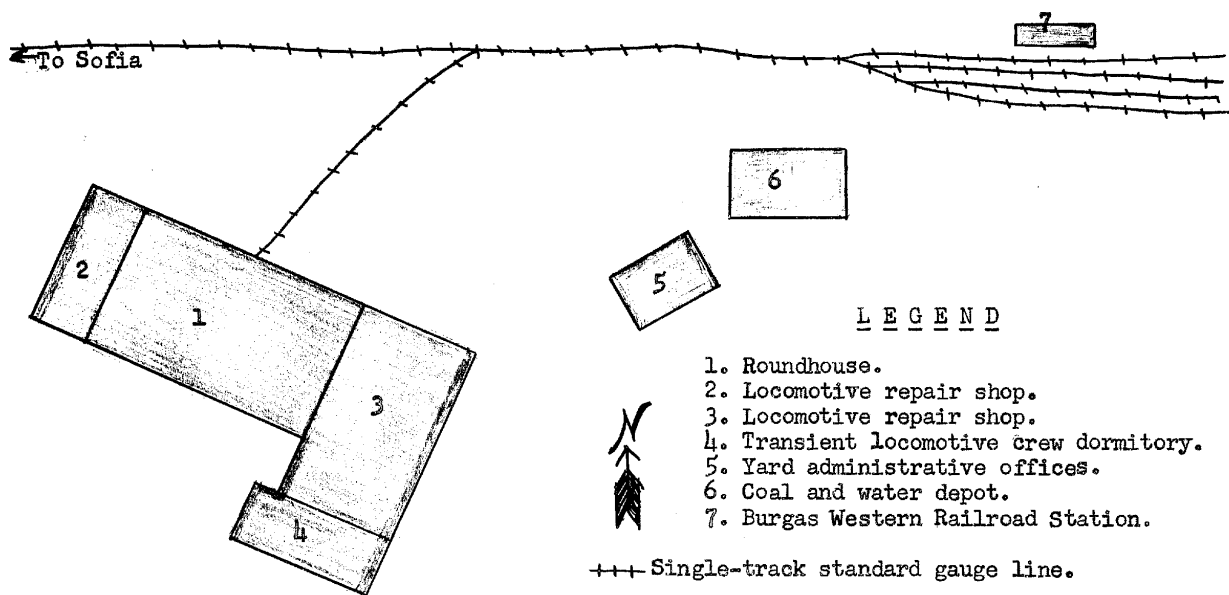
-2-

25X1

3. Students in the Railroad Engineer Section were required to study mathematics, physics, Russian, French, steam engines, steam boilers, etc. and also had to devote two hours a week to political indoctrination and military training. Lieutenant Spasov instructed the students in the use of carbines and hand grenades and also conducted a course in chemical warfare. During the summer, the students were assigned to various centers for two months of practical experience, such as serving as firemen on freight or passenger trains.¹

The Burgas Railroad Yards

4. The Burgas Railroad Yard is located approximately 200 meters southwest of the Burgas Western Railroad Station in the southwestern extremity of the city. The Yard has facilities for cleaning locomotive boilers, for minor engine repairs, and for general maintenance of the locomotives, and is arranged as follows:



5. During the months of June and July 1950, between 25 and 30 locomotives of various types were assigned to the Burgas Railroad Center for use on the Burgas-Sliven and Burgas-Stara Zagora rail lines. These locomotives were serviced in the Railroad Yard, and consisted of the following types:
- a. Two locomotives of the "01" series, used for passenger train service over lines containing steep grades;
 - b. Four locomotives of the "05" series, used for passenger train service over level lines; and
 - c. The remainder, 19 to 24 locomotives, of the "28" series used for freight train service.
6. There is a dormitory for transient locomotive personnel lay-overs in Burgas located in the railroad yards. Other transient railroad personnel, such as conductors, brakemen, etc. use a dormitory located in the Main Railroad Station which is adjacent to the Burgas Harbor.

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-3-

25X1

Miscellaneous Railroad Information

7. The average speed of Bulgarian trains is between 35 and 40 kilometers an hour and trains are always late. Transportation of freight takes an unusually long time; it is not uncommon for a shipment of freight from Sofia to Burgas to take as much as 25 days.
8. Passenger traffic is not particularly heavy and trains are usually not very crowded.
9. The Sofia-Burgas rail line is a single-track standard gauge line. There are no tunnels along this route. This is one of the best maintained lines in Bulgaria.
10. The employees of the Bulgarian State Railroad are poorly paid, as are other Bulgarian laborers. For example, a Locomotive Engineer receives a maximum of 14,000 to 15,000 leva (old currency) per month.
11. A locomotive and railroad car factory is located just opposite the Main Railroad Station of Sofia. Another railroad car factory is located at Dryanovo. 25X1

1. Comments: [redacted] the name of the Sredno Transportno Uchilishte was changed in early 1952 [redacted] 25X1

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